

## Minutes of Arlington Cultural Commission Meeting

April 3, 2014 7:30 Jefferson Cutter House

Attending: Adria Arch, Aimee Taberner, Barbara Costa, Stephanie Marlin-Curiel, Carla Dorato and Roland Chaput

Absent: David Ardito

Meeting called at 7:35

1. Mr. Chaput started as Recording Secretary.
2. Ms. Costa asked for intro's all around and welcomed Ms. Taberner and Ms. Dorato as our new CC members.
3. The minutes of 3/6/14 were reviewed and approved as presented.
4. Ms. Arch commented on the new blog called the [arlingtonculturalcommission@wordpress.com](mailto:arlingtonculturalcommission@wordpress.com).
5. There was a brief discussion on the need to ask the Arlington Finance Committee for applicable funds for FY 2015.
6. Ms. Marlin-Curiel reported she spoke to the Board of Selectmen concerning our progress to date as a commission and to ask for a name change to the *Arlington Commission on Arts and Culture*. The purpose is to reduce conflicts with the Arlington Cultural Council. The Board approved her request.
7. Ms Costa reported that a small room in the Town Hall has been made available by the Town Manager to be used by a CC Liaison pending appointment. A desk, chair, telephone and E-mail address will be needed. One of the Liaison's roles will be to develop an inventory of all publicly-owned art in town. Mr. Chaput offered to assist in the work.  
Semester credits along with a stipend for the Liaison may be necessary. Ms Costa will contact the town manager for advice about whether or not we need to post the position through Town HR department.
8. Ms. Marlin-Curiel reported on the need for cooperative action from various arts-oriented groups including *Arlington Alive* and *Arlington Cultural Council*. She suggested we work first on our own partnership plans and then coordinate a working group. There was agreement to try to meet in early June.

9. Research on four possible grant sources presented namely: Our Town, NEFA, Adams Grants and Cultural Districts. Hard copies of short writeups were distributed. There was considerable discussion about Cultural Districts. Although we have three centers in Arlington (Heights (“Foot of the Rocks”), Center and East Arlington), only two Cultural Districts could be funded at a time. Each would need an identity, a structure and a geographic definition. Typically each district would promote a major event such as the *Feast of the East* or *Romancing the Square*. It was agreed that historic sites were equally important in defining districts.

10. The matter of an Advisory Group, and possible advisor names, was discussed. They would be beneficial in a role of support and advice to us.

11. Ms. Marlin-Curiel stated that all public or private funding should be matched by the town. We need to discuss this issue with appropriate officials.

12. Other comments and additions:

Ms. Taberner said we could ask Mike Rademacher, DPW Director, to one of our meetings so we can stress the importance of including Art locations along the new Mass Ave Corridor Project.

Ms. Marlin-Curiel spoke of displaying the interesting Fish/Bike art objects along Route 16 as good examples of public art. We would need to contact the artist.

Ms. Arch stressed the need for a common goal as we progress in our quest for common and identifiable art. She also stated that the majority of art-oriented projects should not be controlled and/or dependent on volunteers.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40. The next meeting is scheduled for May 8th in the JC House.

Respectfully submitted: Roland Chaput